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NOTICES FROM THE LICK OBSERVATORY.*

PREPARED BY MEMBERS OF THE STAFF.

COMET *c* 1903 (BORRELLY).

A telegram announcing the discovery of a new comet by M. BORRELLY, at Marseilles, on June 21, 1903, was received here on the evening of June 22d. Observations of it were secured by the writer the same night and the two following nights, and the resulting positions telegraphed to other observatories. The comet at the date of the first observation was in the position R. A. $21^h\ 52^m$; Decl. $-7°$, and was moving slowly westward and more rapidly northward. It appeared to be fully as bright as an eighth-magnitude star, and had a small disk-like nucleus estimated of about the tenth magnitude. A brushy tail could be traced for half a degree in the south preceding quadrant.

The comet's apparent motion has increased very rapidly, owing to its near approach to the Earth, with a corresponding increase in its brightness. On June 30th it was easily visible to the naked eye, and last night (July 14th) it was as bright as a third-magnitude star. Notes on the comet's orbit, and on the photographic and spectrographic observations secured here will be found on another page.

R. G. AITKEN.

July 15, 1903.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SPECTRUM OF COMET *c* 1903 (BORRELLY).

A photograph of the spectrum of this comet was obtained on July 15th, using the small slit-spectrograph attached to the Crossley reflector. An exposure of four hours showed the five bands which were photographed in comets *b* 1893 (RORDAME)† and *b* 1894 (GALE)‡, by CAMPBELL. The relative

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* Lick Astronomical Department of the University of California.

† *Astronomy and Astrophysics*, Vol. XII, p. 652.

‡ *Astronomical Journal*, Vol. XIV, p. 111.